

636 NORTH WILKINSON STREET (HOUSE)
Charlton/Wilkinson Impact Area
Milledgeville
Baldwin County
Georgia

HABS No. GA-2250

HABS
GA,
S-MILG,
13-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SOUTHEAST REGION
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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GA,
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636 NORTH WILKINSON STREET (House) HABS No. GA-2250 13-

Location: 636 North Wilkinson Street
Milledgeville
Baldwin County
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U. S. G. S. Milledgeville Quadrangle (7.5)
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:
17.291700.3663060

Significance: The house at 636 North Wilkinson Street is a representative example of early-to-mid-twentieth century worker's housing in an African-American Milledgeville neighborhood. The vicinity developed in response to both the coming of the railroad in the late-1800s and to turn-of-the-century business and industrial growth nearby.

Description: The house at 636 North Wilkinson Street is a one-story, front-gable dwelling with a hall-parlor floor plan and a full-facade hipped front porch. The original portion of the house (not including the front porch) measures 28'-0" in depth by 22'-0" in width and consists of four rooms. There is a shed extension to the rear housing the kitchen and bathroom; this could be either an addition or an infilled porch. All original windows are six-over-six double-hung sash; there are also three nonhistoric windows in the shed extension. The house rests on a concrete block foundation, which is not original, and the roof material is raised seam metal. The exterior of the dwelling is sided with weatherboard, which appears original.

The interior exhibits its original floor plan, though ceilings and walls may have been altered.

History: The subject house was apparently either constructed circa 1950 by an unknown builder or moved to its present location. The building does not appear on the 1949 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map and its appearance suggests a construction date of perhaps 1920 to 1930.

Gertrude Young White owned the property until her death in 1992. Her estate, under the executorship of Robert C. Hawkins, now owns the property. The 1956-1957 Milledgeville City Directory lists Sinie M. Pitts, a maid, as the resident at that time. The 1966 City Directory lists L.F. Lamar and Joseph Pruitt as residents. The present occupant is Leonard Marshall, Jr.

The subject property is located in a historically black working class neighborhood located just north of the Baldwin County Courthouse and Georgia College. The existence of this neighborhood can be attributed to several events, the first being the arrival of the Georgia Railroad in the late-nineteenth century. The railroad was constructed just two blocks north of the 600 block of North Wilkinson Street and the depot was located three blocks to the east. An industrial district developed in the vicinity of the railroad and provided employment opportunities for many blacks. From the 1920s to the post-Second World War era, the neighborhood experienced considerable growth as industry expanded. Milledgeville Ice Works, Milledgeville Cottonseed Oil Company and Mills, The Cook Lumber Company, Fowler-Flimister Coal Company, Oconee Clay Products Company, and the Georgia Railroad Power Company are just some of the businesses that developed near the railroad. Milledgeville's black business district, which, like the railroad and industrial area, provides nearby economic opportunities, is located to the east of the Baldwin County Courthouse.

Sources:

African-American History File. Georgia College Library, Special Collections, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Baldwin County Deed Records, Baldwin County Courthouse, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Baldwin County Tax Records, Baldwin County Offices, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Black Heritage Tourism File. Milledgeville/Baldwin County Tourism and Trade Department, 200 West Hancock Street, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Campbell, Paul, telephone interview, 1 February 1993, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Campbell, Paul. "City of Milledgeville Community Development Block Grant." Unpublished paper, Georgia College, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Dexter, Pete. Paris Trout. New York: Random House, 1988.

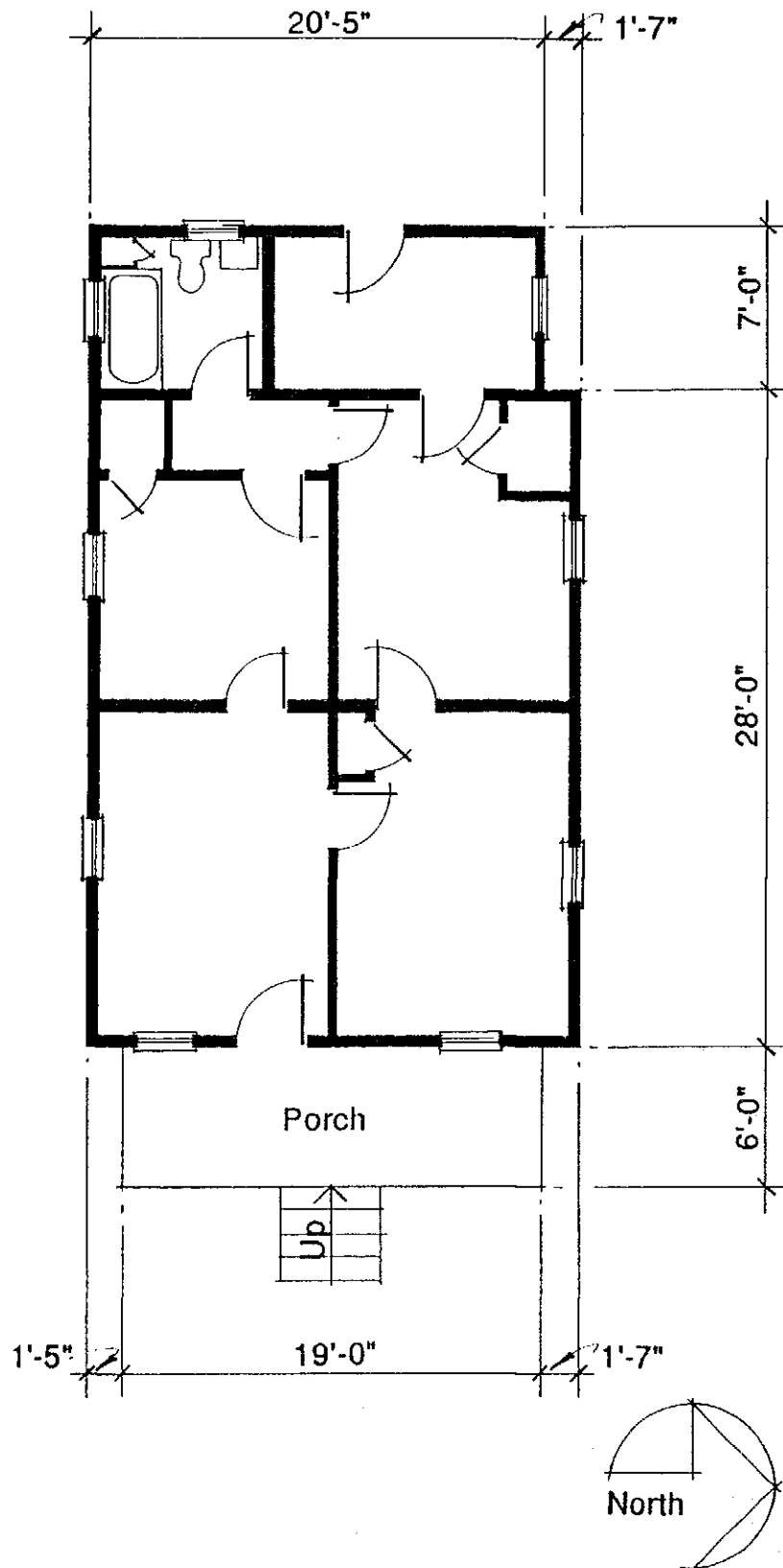
Milledgeville City Directory, 1939, 1949, 1956-57, and 1966.
Located in Georgia College Library, Special Collections,
Milledgeville, Georgia.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Milledgeville, Georgia, 1889,
1895, 1908, 1913, 1949. Located in Georgia College Library,
Special Collections, Milledgeville, Georgia.

Watkins, Rodney, State Historic Preservation Office, telephone
interview, 2 February 1993, Atlanta, Georgia.

Historian:

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CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE
1990 C.D.B.G. PROGRAM
CHARLTON/WILKINSON IMPACT AREA

